

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  CORN BELT POWER COOPERATIVE	DOCKET NO. E-21519
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**ORDER GRANTING FIRST AMENDMENT OF FRANCHISE**

(Issued March 4, 2004)

On June 10, 2003, Corn Belt Power Cooperative (Corn Belt) filed a petition, identified as Docket No. E-21519, with the Iowa Utilities Board for authority to amend its previously granted Franchise No. 17448. Corn Belt specifically requested the Board allow it to add approximately .5 miles of 72,500-volt electric transmission line in Hamilton County, Iowa, pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 478 (2003).

In its petition, Corn Belt states that it does not request authority to construct any new transmission lines, but only to amend its franchise for transmission lines that have been previously constructed and are presently being operated and maintained. Corn Belt further states that all easements required for the line have been obtained.

Corn Belt has met the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 478 (2003) and 199 IAC chapter 11 and an amendment to franchise should be issued to Corn Belt for the transmission line described in the petition.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. No objections to the petition have been filed as provided for by Iowa Code chapter 478 (2003).
2. Notice of the petition was published as required by Iowa Code chapter 478 (2003).
3. Corn Belt has filed an agreement to pay all costs and expenses of this franchise proceeding pursuant to IOWA CODE § 478.4 (2003).
4. The transmission line is necessary to serve a public use. This conclusion is based on information provided pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 478 (2003).
5. The transmission line represents a reasonable relationship to an overall plan of transmitting electric energy in the public interest. This conclusion is based on information provided pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 478 (2003).
6. The transmission line will meet or exceed the minimum engineering requirements of the rules of the Board and will conform to the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 478 (2003).
7. Corn Belt has not requested it be vested with the right of eminent domain.
8. The transmission line is near and parallel to a railroad rights of way or along division lines of land, wherever practicable and reasonable, and so as not to

unnecessarily interfere with the use of land by the occupants consistent with IOWA CODE § 478.18 (2003).

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. The Utilities Board has jurisdiction of the parties and subject matter pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 478 (2003).
2. The Utilities Board has authority pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 478 (2003) to grant an amendment to franchises for the construction, erection, maintenance, and operation of certain electric transmission lines outside cities in the state for the transmission, distribution, or sale of electric current within the state. Iowa Code § 478.1 (2003).

### **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. The petition is granted and an amendment to franchise will be issued to Corn Belt Power Cooperative to construct, erect, operate, and maintain an electric transmission line as specifically described in the amendment to franchise attached to this order and incorporated by this reference.

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2. The Utilities Board retains jurisdiction of the subject matter in this docket pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 478 (2003), and may at any time during the period of the franchise make such further orders as may be necessary.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper  
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2004.

## **FIRST AMENDMENT OF FRANCHISE**

On June 10, 2003, Corn Belt Power Cooperative (Corn Belt) filed a petition, identified as Docket No. E-21519, with the Utilities Board (Board) for authority to amend its previously granted Franchise No. E-17748. Corn Belt specifically requested the Board allow it to add approximately .5 miles of 72,500-volt electric transmission line in Hamilton County, Iowa, pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 478 (2003). Upon due notice and consideration in accordance with Iowa Code chapter 478 (2003), the Board found the petition should be granted and the franchise amended.

Pursuant to the order of the Board and Iowa Code chapter 478 (2003), the amendment of franchise is granted, along with permission and authority to erect, maintain, and operate a transmission line on routing as specifically described for the transmission, distribution, use, and sale of electric current outside of cities and towns, and for such purpose to erect, use, and maintain poles, wire, guy wires, towers, cables, conduits, and other fixtures, and appliances necessary for conducting electric current for light, heat, and power, over, along, and across any public lands, highways, streams, or the lands of any person, company, or corporation, and to acquire necessary interest in real estate for such purposes, on and along the route particularly described in Exhibit A, attached to and incorporated by reference in this order.

Franchise No. 17448, to construct, operate and maintain 58.3 miles of transmission line at a maximum voltage of 72,500 volts on the route particularly

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described in Exhibit A, was granted by the Board or predecessor, to Corn Belt Power Cooperative, on September 25, 2001, identified as Docket No. E-21519.

The amendment of franchise is granted from the date of issuance unless sooner revoked or modified, to the date of termination of the franchise. The amendment shall be subject to and governed by all provisions, conditions, and requirements of Iowa Code chapter 478 (2003) and by all provisions, conditions, and requirements of the Board, as may be applicable.

It is provided and understood the amendment of franchise is granted subject to the provisions of Iowa Code § 319.5 (2003).

It is further provided and is a condition of the amendment that the Board retains jurisdiction and may during the period of the franchise make such further orders and regulations as may be necessary.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Diane Munns  
Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper  
Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2004.